

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A process for preparation of an organic compound selected from the group consisting of C₁ to C₆ carboxylic acids, ketones having boiling points from 154° C to 170° C, and esters having boiling points from about 168° C to about 250° C, comprising combining the organic compound with water to form a mixture of the organic compound and water comprising from about 100 ppm to about 50,000 ppm water.
2. The process of Claim 1 wherein the water and organic compound are combined at a temperature of about 0° C to about 160° C.
3. The process of Claim 2 wherein the water is combined with the organic compound under conditions of agitation.
4. The process of Claim 3 wherein the organic compound has a stable APHA color value of 15 or less.
5. The process of Claim 4 wherein the organic compound is a C₁ to C₆ carboxylic acid.
6. The process of Claim 5 wherein the carboxylic acid is butyric acid.
7. The process of Claim 6 wherein the mixture of butyric acid and the water comprises from 100 ppm to about 10,000 ppm water.
8. The process of Claim 7 wherein the water and organic compound are combined at a temperature of about 20° C to about 50° C.
9. The process of Claim 8 wherein the mixture of butyric acid and the water comprises from 500 ppm to about 1,000 ppm water.
10. A process for preparation of an organic compound, having a stable APHA color value of 15, or less selected from the group consisting of C₁ to C₆ carboxylic acids, ketones having boiling points from 154° C to 170° C, and esters having boiling points from about 168° C to about 250° C, comprising removing a product stream comprising the organic compound from a reaction zone in which the organic compound is prepared and introducing the product stream into a distillation column having a lower portion and an upper portion wherein the upper portion and the lower portion are maintained at a temperature of about 23° C to about 250° C and at a pressure of about 10.1 kPa to about 202.6 kPa.

11. The process of **Claim 10** wherein the organic compound is a C₁ to C₆ carboxylic acid.
12. The process of **Claim 11** wherein the carboxylic acid is butyric acid.
13. The process of **Claim 12** wherein the distillation column is operated at a temperature of about 170° C to about 180° C and at a pressure of about 101 kPa to about 202 kPa.
14. A process for preparation of an organic compound, having a stable APHA color value of 15 or less, selected from the group consisting of C₁ to C₆ carboxylic acids, ketones having boiling points from 154° C to 170° C, and esters having boiling points from about 168° C to about 250° C comprising:
 - (a) removing a product stream comprising the organic compound from a reaction zone in which the organic compound is prepared;
 - (b) introducing the product stream into a distillation column having a lower portion and an upper portion wherein the upper portion and the lower portion are maintained at a temperature of about 23° C to about 250° C and at a pressure of about 10.1 kPa to about 202.6 kPa to recover the organic compound; and
 - (c) combining the recovered organic compound with water to form a mixture of the organic compound and water comprising from about 100 ppm to about 50,000 ppm water.
15. The process of **Claim 14** wherein the water and organic compound are combined at a temperature of about 0° C to about 160° C.
16. The process of **Claim 15** wherein the water is combined with the organic compound under conditions of agitation.
17. The process of **Claim 16** wherein the organic compound is a C₁ to C₆ carboxylic acid.
18. The process of **Claim 17** wherein the carboxylic acid is butyric acid.
19. The process of **Claim 18** wherein the water and the butyric acid are combined at a temperature of about 20° C to about 50° C and the mixture of butyric acid and the water comprises from 100 ppm to about 10,000 ppm.
20. The process of **Claim 19** wherein the mixture of butyric acid and the water comprises from 500 ppm to about 1,000 ppm water.